E-rate BEAR Form 2016

Lauren Abner July 2016

The BEAR, Briefly

- BEAR = Billed Entity Applicant Reimbursement
- Libraries file BEAR forms after paying the full invoice upfront
- o 3 big changes starting July 1, 2016:
 - Libraries will receive reimbursement via direct deposit
 - No more paper BEAR forms can be submitted
 - Service providers no longer certify BEAR forms

E-rate Cycle

Form 470

Competitive Bidding

SPI or

BEAR

Invoicing

Form 471

Request Discounts

Form 498

Direct Deposit

Form 486

Accept Funds + CIPA certification

BEAR Tips

- BEARs can't be filed until bills have been paid.
- BEARs can't be filed without the library's Form 498 ID— this ID # provides direct deposit information.
- File BEARs as frequently (annually, quarterly, etc.) as you like.
- File one form for each service provider.
- You can request 1 filing extension of 120 days: http://www.usac.org/sl/applicants/step06/invoice-extensions.aspx

Deadlines

- You must complete invoicing no later than 120 days after the last date of service.
- For recurring services such as internet or phone, the last day of service is generally June 30 and last date to invoice is October 28th.
 - o FY 2015-16 (services between July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016) must be invoiced by October 28, 2016.
 - o FY 2016-17 (services between July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017) must be invoiced by October 28, 2017.
- For non-recurring, one-time purchases, you must complete invoicing no later than 120 days after purchase or vendor installation.

BEARs by the Numbers

- You need the following to file a BEAR:
 - Identifying information:
 - Billed Entity Number (BEN)
 - Your PIN for online forms (see next 2 slides)
 - Library's Form 498 ID (9 digits, starts 443) will appear on a drop-down on the form
 - Funding request information:
 - Form 471 number
 - Funding Request Number (FRN)
 - Invoice Dates
 - Eligible invoiced amount
- Most of this information will appear on your Funding Commitment Decision Letter (FCDL) or can be researched on E-rate Central—enter your BEN on this page: http://e-ratecentral.com/us/stateInformation.asp?state=KY

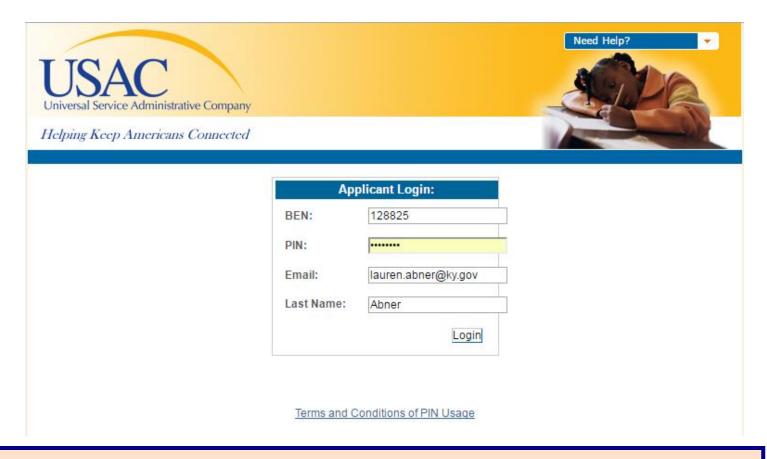
PINs (1/2)

- Every library staff member who will prepare or certify BEAR forms must have their own Personal Identification Number—PINs are specific to the person. Logging in with a PIN certifies that you are the person associated with that PIN.
- If you still have a PIN from previous years, continue using it.
- To change or disable a PIN, use this page: https://slpin.universalservice.org/Pin/PinArea.as
 px

PINs (2/2)

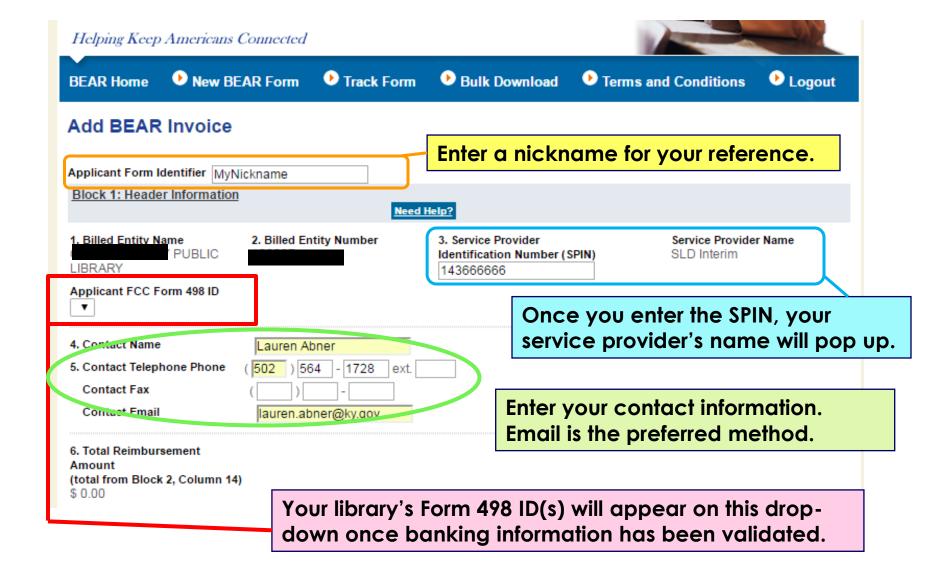
- To request a PIN, contact the USAC Client Services Bureau, M-F, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
 - o Phone: 1-888-203-8100
 - E-rate Productivity Center from My Landing Page, click on the 'Contact Us' link; submit a completed PIN request template from the PIN page of the USAC website: http://www.usac.org/sl/tools/forms/pin.aspx
- Info you'll need
 - Library name + BEN
 - Full name, job title, and email of BEAR filer
 - Street address where PIN will be mailed
- o PIN will be mailed within 2 weeks

Online BEAR Login

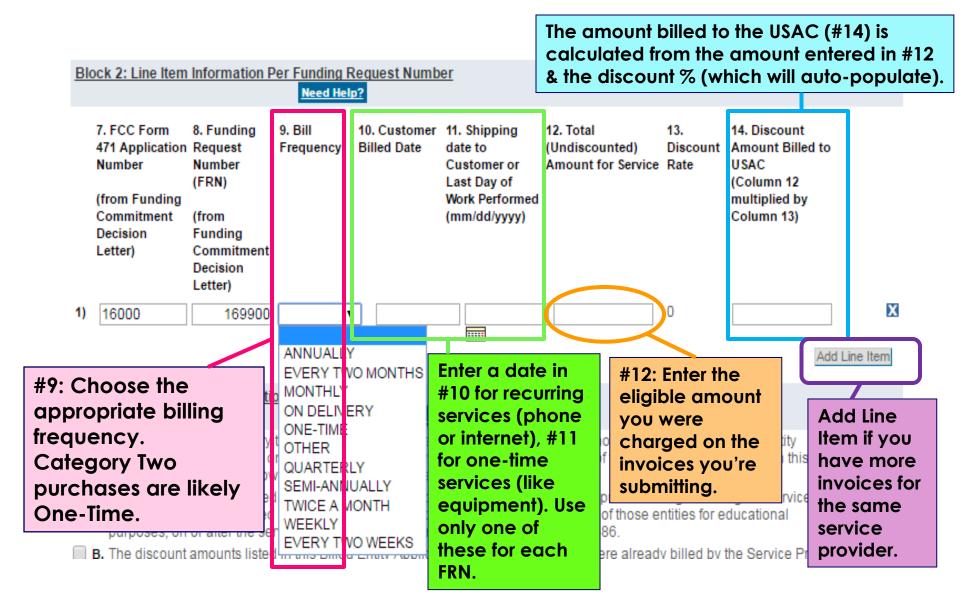


https://www2.sl.universalservice.org/bear/login.aspx

Block 1: Header Information



Block 2: Line Item Information



Block 3: Billed Entity Certification

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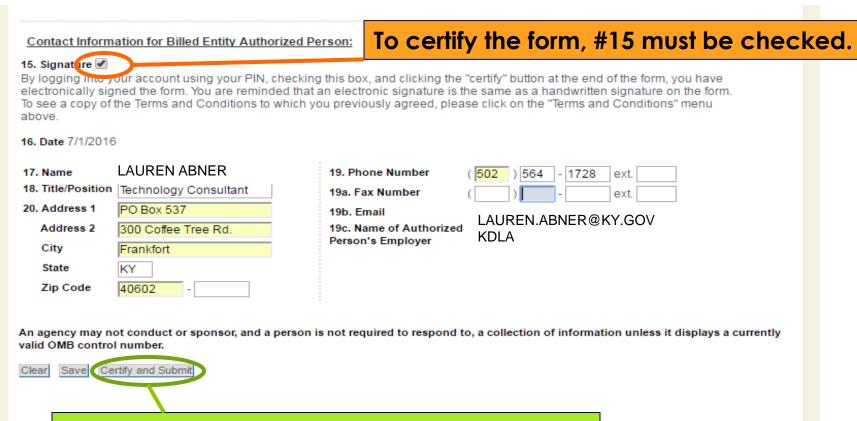
Need Help?

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that I am authorized to submit this Billed Entity
Applicant Reimbursement Form on behalf of the eligible schools, libraries, or consortia of those entities represented on this Form, and I ertify to the best of my knowledge, information and belief, as follows:

- A. The discount amounts listed in this Billed Entity Applicant Reimbursement Form represent charges for eligible services and/or equipment delivered to and used by eligible schools, libraries, or consortia of those entities for educational purposes, on or after the service start date reported on the associated FCC Form 486.
- B. The discount amounts listed in this Billed Entity Applicant Reimbursement Form were already billed by the Service Provider and paid for by the Billed Entity Applicant on behalf of eligible schools, libraries, and consortia of those entities.
- C. The discount amounts listed in this Billed Entity Applicant Reimbursement Form are for eligible services and/or equipment approved by the Fund Administrator pursuant to a Funding Commitment Decision Letter (FCDL).
- D. I acknowledge that I may be audited pursuant to this application and will retain for at least 10 years (or whatever retention period is required by the rules in effect at the time of this certification), after the latter of the last day of the applicable funding year or the service delivery deadline for the funding request any and all records that I rely upon to complete this form.
- E. certify that, in addition to the foregoing, this Billed Entity Applicant is in compliance with the rules and orders governing the schools and libraries universal service support program, and I acknowledge that failure to be in compliance and remain in compliance with those rules and orders may result in the denial of discount funding and/or cancellation of funding commitments. I acknowledge that failure to comply with the rules and orders governing the schools and libraries universal service support program could result in civil or criminal prosecution by law enforcement authorities.

Check all of these certifications.

Contact Information



Enter your contact information and click on Certify and Submit. You also have the option to Save the form and return to it later.

Records Retention

- Remember to print a copy of any BEARs you submit and the invoices from your service providers.
- The current E-rate retention period is 10 years after the end of the funding year.
- If you're selected for a random audit, you may have to produce these records accuracy and documentation are key!

Questions?

- o Lauren Abner, KDLA's Technology Consultant:
 - o <u>lauren.abner@ky.gov</u>
 - o (502) 564-1728
- **o USAC Client Services Bureau:**
 - 1-888-203-8100
 - File a customer service case in the Erate Productivity Center (EPC)